



September 2019

Reimbursement Policy Provider Newsletter Article

New Policy: Update Drug Screen Testing

(Policy 19-001, effective 11/01/19)

The effective date of this policy has been updated from 10/1/19.

Effective November 1, 2019, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Healthcare Solutions will allow separate reimbursement for definitive drug testing of 1 to 7 drug classes. Definitive drug testing for eight or more drug classes will not be separately reimbursed when performed on the same date of service as presumptive testing.

Definitive drug testing may be done to confirm the results of a negative presumptive test or to identify substances when there is no presumptive test available. Provider's documentation and member's medical records should reflect that the test was properly ordered and support that the order was based on the result of the presumptive test.

In the event a reference lab (POS = 81) performs both presumptive and definitive tests on the same date of service, records should reflect that the ordering/treating provider issued a subsequent order for definitive testing based on the results of the presumptive tests.

For additional information, please review the Drug Screen Testing reimbursement policy at <https://mediproviders.anthem.com/nv>.

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